

HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING of the RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES (ROS) COMMITTEE held on 27th February 2023 in the Parish Room, at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs J Stewart Chair, M Stead Vice Chair, I Blackamore, R House, C Page,
P Rushbrook

IN ATTENDANCE: L Johnson Parish Clerk

SDFC Utd: L Tow

1 Member of the Public

The meeting began at 7.30pm

64 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received in Advance from D Ramsden.

65 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

66 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the last meeting held on the 28th November 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

67 MATTERS ARISING

105 Avenue of Cherry Trees; Certificates to be signed and despatched. **In progress**

147 Westminster Field Overflow Car Park; paint hatching lines. **Awaiting date**

282 Westminster Field; repair and install notice board at the entrance to WF. **In progress**

42 Green Spaces; Cllrs House & Stead to provide Reece Evans from NWKCP with information to accompany 6km nature trail. Cllr Moyle approached to assist 6/3/22

All other matters were completed or appear as an agenda item.

68 QUESTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PUBLIC

Resident from South Darenth asked why the parents of the youth seen destroying the new green space signs have not been approached by the Parish Council to pay for the damage caused. Information was taken from a Village Facebook page it was not viable for the Parish Council to act upon.

Councillors considered purchasing replacement signs - the original ones were received from central government 'welcome back' fund via Sevenoaks district Council. It was agreed to wait until end of March and investigate alternative funding sources. In the meantime, quotes for sturdier anti-vandal signs would be researched.

ACTION: Cllr Blackamore, clerk.

Correspondence was received from resident regarding Darent Valley path from Station road to Westminster field; would it be possible for a sign to be installed to advise closing times of the car park at WF, install a dropped kerb at Station road, South Darenth. This would make the path way more accessible for prams/Motability scooters etc

Correspondence received asking when wooden chicanes or similar would be reinstalled at the same site as above as cyclists, horse riders, motorbikes were using it.

ACTION: Clerk to reply to both advising KCC is responsible for public rights of way. Report online and contact Darent Valley Landscape Partnership as they have said this section of the Darent Valley Path is to be upgraded by them.

Email received asking if the Parish Council would support a residents application for width restriction to be installed at the rural end of School lane, Horton Kirby with a suitable key facility to deter fly tipping.

ACTION: Clerk to contact resident, KCC highways and will raise at next Parish Council meeting.

69 ALLOTMENTS

No report was available. Clerk mentioned there were 3 available plots.

70 FOOTBALL

L Tow advised the following:

The under 8's are now using Horton Kirby School field.

The goal posts in Westminster field had been painted

Water fountain damaged and light on Heathside toilet smashed – Committee were aware.

Pitch lining at Westminster field was good.

Zoe to be commended for good condition of the Pavilion.

The under 15 and 12 teams will be moving to Westminster field for next season. The under 12's would be requiring changing room facilities as they would be in Kent County league.

Clerk was concerned about logistics but until fixtures were received, was unable to comment further. L Tow had some apprehensions regarding parking.

ACTION: Clerk

Clerk had received request from other local junior football club to use football pitches and facilities.

The Committee agreed, unfortunately, this would not be possible as Heathside already at full capacity.

ACTION: Clerk

71 GREEN SPACES

Shrubbery Road play area – It was agreed to move the bin to a central position to stop 'doggy waste bags' being put in and quickly filling it up. Cllr Blackamore pointed out that there is another bin on the other side of the green which is a dual dog waste and rubbish bin. Bins to be monitored to assess whether they need emptying more frequently in the winter.

Top Paddock, South Darenth – to combat the ongoing fly tipping of glass, household rubbish, oil cans, Cllr Blackamore suggested that the bank closest to Montgomery road should be cleared. Cllr Stewart agreed that by clearing the lower Paddock, there had been less fly-tipping. Evidence of dog training was photographed.

Horton Kirby Burial Ground – Cllr Blackamore requested that it be noted the hedge surrounding the burial ground had been very poorly trimmed back, was no longer straight and numerous branches had been left uncut leaving an overall poor impression of the landscape management team that had carried out the work.

ACTION: Clerk to send photo's and complaint to Landscape Services.

72 HEATHSIDE

Committee agreed that area from pavement to chicane/second gate must be upgraded to improve accessibility for all. Installation of a sign to include SDFC Juniors and Bowling club to make it more identifiable must be carried out this year.

ACTION: Clerk to research specification and obtain quotes to bring before Committee.

73 MAINTENANCE

Updated Maintenance list enclosed - *Appendix 1*

74 BUDGET MONITORING

The latest budget was received – there were no questions.

Grave cleaning service letters to be sent out for renewal from 01 April 2023.

75 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 24th April 2023

Meeting finished at 8.23pm

Chair:

Date: